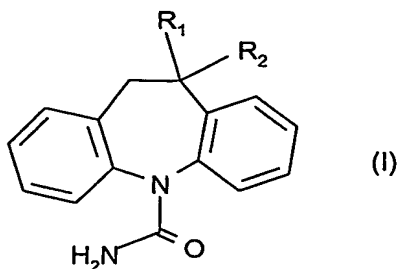


AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 25 February 2004 (25.02.04);
original claims 1-9 replaced by amended claims 1-8 (3 pages)]

1. The use of a compound of formula I



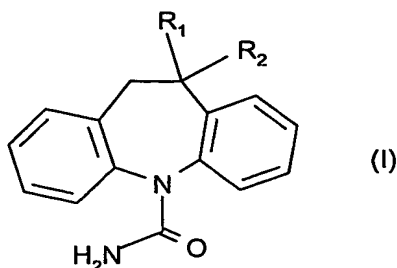
wherein

- (a) R_1 represents hydrogen, and R_2 represents hydroxy or C_1 - C_3 alkyl carbonyloxy, or
- (b) R_1 and R_2 together represent an oxo group,

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof for the treatment of tinnitus or other inner ear/cochlear excitability related diseases.

- 2. The use of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein R_1 and R_2 together represent an oxo group.
- 3. The use of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein R_1 represents hydrogen, and R_2 represents hydroxy.
- 4. The use of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein R_1 represents hydrogen and R_2 represents acetoxy.
- 5. The use of a compound of formula I according to any one of claims 1 to 4 for the treatment of tinnitus.

6. The use of a compound of formula I



wherein

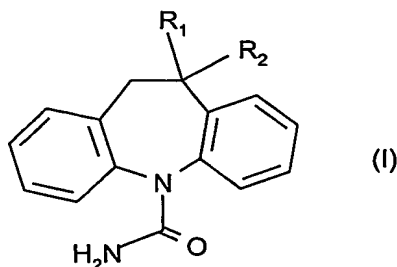
(a) R_1 represents hydrogen, and R_2 represents hydroxy or C_1 - C_3 alkyl carbonyloxy, or

(b) R_1 and R_2 together represent an oxo group,

or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of tinnitus and other inner ear/cochlear excitability related diseases.

7. A method for the treatment of tinnitus and other inner ear/cochlear excitability related diseases in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I



wherein

(a) R_1 represents hydrogen, and R_2 represents hydroxy or C_1 - C_3 alkyl carbonyloxy, or

(b) R_1 and R_2 together represent an oxo group,

or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. The use of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein R_1 represents hydrogen and R_2 represents hydroxy or C_1 - C_3 alkyl carbonyloxy and wherein the compound is employed in enantiomerically pure form.